Ricky Smith, 46, Portal, ND, passed away Saturday, February 7, 2009, in his home.

Ricky Allen Smith was born December 18, 1962, the son of Gary Smith and Bernice (Johnson) Nygaard in Lincoln, Kansas. He moved to Flaxton, ND, at an early age and attended school in Flaxton.

As a young adult, Rick worked in the oil fields until he met and married Lisa Mattison. They were married July 25, 1981, in Bowbells. They made their home in Tioga, ND, and later moved to Portal. He worked for the City of Portal for a number of years and most recently was employed by Eagle Operating of Kenmare.

He was a member of the Portal Fire Department, Columbus Sportsman Club, Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, and was a former member of the Portal Ambulance.

Rick loved fishing, hunting, playing cards, gardening, restoring old toys, and spending time with the family pet "Emma." Going out to Short Creek was one of his favorite things to do.

His loving family includes: wife, Lisa, Portal; sons, Jeffery Smith, Bottineau, ND, James (Carissa) Smith, Crosby, ND, Ricky Lee Smith, Portal, and Tyler Sandberg, Powers Lake, ND; granddaughter, Chastidy Sandberg; mother, Bernice Nygaard, Portal, ND; father, Gary (Janice) Smith, Great Bend, KS; brother, Bruce (Lisa) Nygaard, Mitchell, SD; step brother, Kenny (Carrie) Nygaard, Flaxton, ND; sisters, LaVon (Harrison) Fowler, Williston, ND, and Brenda Martinson, Jamestown, ND; step sisters, Gayle (Paul) Soderquist, West Fargo, ND, and Jeanne (Ron) Stein, Minot; half brothers, Gary David Smith, Christopher Smith and Michael Smith, all of Kansas; grandmother, Ida Johnson, Tioga; aunts, Della Soiseth, Tioga, Vivian (Roger) Johnson, Minot and Kathy Johnson, Fargo; great uncle, Art Haga, Noonan, ND. Several sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, and cousins also survive.

Rick was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents; maternal grandfather; step father, Leonard Nygaard; step grandfather, Chet Johnson; uncles, Larry Johnson and James "Fats" Soiseth.

In Loving Memory

Ricky Smith
1962 - 2009